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25X1

COUNTRY East Germany REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Erfurt-Bindersleben Airfield

EVALUATION 25X1 [REDACTED] PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED] 25X1

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED [REDACTED] 25X1

REFERENCES [REDACTED]

PAGES 2

REMARKS [REDACTED]

1. The following observations were made at Erfurt-Bindersleben airfield between 22 June and 1 August 1953:
- 25X1 22 June. Transport planes and cargo gliders landed at the field and 150 to 200 men were unloaded. The aircraft took off around evening.
- 23 to 27 June. Four MiG-15s were repeatedly observed south of the flight control station.¹
- 28 June. Nine transport type aircraft landed at the field and took off at 1:25 p.m. At about 6 p.m., several twin-engine aircraft, each towing a cargo glider with a line, about 75 meters long, took off. At the same time, two MiG-15s were observed aloft.²
- 22 to 26 June. No construction work was observed at the field. After 27 June, construction activity became rather intensive.
- 22 to 30 July. No air activity was observed at the field.
- 25X1 31 July. Three single-engine aircraft flew over Erfurt between 9:15 a.m. and 10 a.m. and again between 2 p.m. and 2:25 p.m. Two MiG-15s [REDACTED]
- 25X1 practiced formation flying between 4:20 p.m. and 4:55 p.m.
- 1 August. Two MiG-15s [REDACTED] took off.¹ Three 25X1 single-engine aircraft were again observed over Erfurt at noon.
2. When cargo gliders landed at the field during late June and early July [REDACTED] the gliders extended brake flaps on the upper and lower sides of their wings. The flaps were located approximately near the middle of the wings and were lowered while gliding at 3 to 5 meters above the ground. [REDACTED]
- 25X1 [REDACTED]
- 25X1 [REDACTED]
3. In late July, trucks [REDACTED] were observed entering and leaving the field.
4. Almost every day between 28 June and 11 July, landings were made by up to 27 twin-engine aircraft coming from an easterly direction. During five days of this period an additional 6 aircraft towing cargo gliders were observed at the field. Troops were unloaded from the aircraft and subsequently trucked out toward Erfurt-North.²
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- 25X1 Comment. An alert flight of a changing aircraft strength is stationed at Erfurt-Bindersleben airfield. This flight is mostly detached from the fighter division in Merseburg, which can be confirmed by the presence of two aircraft
- 25X1 [REDACTED] previously observed in Merseburg. [REDACTED]

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25X1

- 2 -

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25X1 2-

[redacted] Comment. On 19 June 1953, a transport unit of about 30 Mi-2s and 6 Il-2s each towing a cargo glider landed at Brandis airfield. This unit participated in an air landing exercise, with army units of the 39th Gas Mot Rifle Div from the Plauen/Ohrdruf area which had arrived by train. During this exercise, the army units were flown from Brandis to Erfurt-Bindersleben. The present report confirms that the first troop air-lift had already been conducted on 22 June. It was assumed previously, that the transport unit flew to Erfurt for the first time on 28 June.

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